



State of Utah  
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*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT

## Governor's Office of Economic Development

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**News Release**  
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## **Utah Recognized as the Second Most Livable State in the Nation**

*From the 2008 Edition of State Rankings from CQ Press*

**Salt Lake City** – Utah has been named as the second Most Livable State in the country according to the recent CQ Press state livability rankings, an improvement from last year's fourth place position.

"This impressive ranking is a reflection of our state's unparalleled quality of life and exemplary economic success," said Governor Jon Huntsman. "Utah truly offers 'Life Elevated.'"

The rankings are found in *State Rankings: A Statistical View of America*. The *State Rankings* and the Most Livable State Award are published by CQ Press, a division of Congressional Quarterly. The award is based on 44 factors that reflect a state's basic quality of life. These factors include statistics for each state in: education, economic development, public safety, environment, and public health. Other factors include: median household income to crime rate, sunny days to infant mortality rate. Each category is then averaged to yield a final score to determine a state's 'Livability Rating.'

"Utah boasts one of the nation's lowest unemployment rates, while maintaining one of the highest job growth rates," said Jason Perry, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development. "Our focus on education along with our skillful workforce makes Utah a great place for doing business. The affordable cost of living, the beautiful scenic life, and the countless recreational opportunities truly qualify Utah as one of the 'Most Livable States in the Nation.'"

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Editors note: The full report can be accessed at <http://cqpress.com/reference>